

The report provides some very interesting and very troubling findings about where the threats to U.S. interests, U.S. citizens, and international stability have been coming from during the past year.

One of the most dramatic findings of the report is that Pakistan, traditionally an ally of the United States, is guilty of providing safe haven and support to international terrorist groups.

Unfortunately, Madam Speaker, the State Department stopped short of adding Pakistan to the list of seven nations that are described as state sponsors of terrorism.

Madam Speaker, at the beginning of this year, I introduced legislation calling on the State Department to declare Pakistan a terrorist state. I believe that the information made public this week gives added urgency to that effort.

To quote, if I may, Madam Speaker, from the section of the State Department's report dealing with South Asia, it says, "In 1999, the locus of terrorism directed against the United States continued to shift from the Middle East to South Asia." The report goes on to cite the Taliban, which controls significant areas of Afghanistan, for providing safe haven for international terrorists, particularly Usama Bin Ladin and his network.

As the report points out, "Pakistan is one of only three countries that maintains formal diplomatic relations with and one of several that supported Afghanistan's Taliban."

The report goes on to say, "The United States made repeated requests to Islamabad," the Pakistan capital, "to end support for elements harboring and training terrorists in Afghanistan and urged the Government of Pakistan to close certain Pakistani religious schools that serve as conduits for terrorism. Credible reports also continue to indicate official Pakistani support for Kashmiri militant groups, such as the Harakat ul-Mujahedin, or HUM, that engaged in terrorism." This organization has been linked to the hijacking late last year of the Air India flight, and one of the hijackers' demands was that a leader of the HUM be freed from prison in India in exchange for the innocent hostages on the aircraft. That leader has since returned to Pakistan, according to the State Department.

I might also add, Madam Speaker, that this organization, the HUM, under a previous name has been linked to the kidnapping of Western tourists in Kashmir. Two of those Westerners have been murdered; and several others, including an American, remain unaccounted for.

The region of Kashmir has been ground zero for much of the Pakistani-supported terrorist activity. The State Department report notes that, "Kashmiri extremist groups continue to operate in Pakistan, raising funds and recruiting new cadre." It blames these groups for numerous terrorist attacks

against civilian targets in India's State of Jammu and Kashmir.

After last summer's U.S. diplomatic intervention to end Pakistan's incursion onto India's side of the Line of Control in Kashmir, Pakistani and Kashmiri extremist groups worked to stir up anti-American sentiment.

As my colleagues can imagine, Madam Speaker, at yesterday's briefing on the release of the report, Michael Sheehan, the State Department's Coordinator for counterterrorism, was put on the defensive as to why Pakistan was not designated as a state sponsor of terrorism when the report contained such damning information.

The agency's response is that Pakistan has sent mixed messages, on the one hand cooperating on extradition and embassy security, while, on the other hand, having relationships with the Kashmiri groups and the Taliban.

But, Madam Speaker, Ambassador Sheehan warned, "for state sponsorship or the designation of foreign terrorist organizations, you can do it any time of the year."

Madam Speaker, the U.S. Counterterrorism Policy is very simple: First, make no concessions to terrorists and strike no deals; second, bring terrorists to justice for their crimes; third, isolate and apply pressure on states that sponsor terrorism to force them to change their behavior; and fourth, bolster the counter-terrorism capabilities of those countries that work with the United States and require assistance.

Madam Speaker, I hope that the State Department will pay particular attention to the third and fourth points with regard to Pakistan and South Asia.

President Clinton, during his recent trip to South Asia, tried to appeal to the Pakistani military junta to cease support for terrorist organizations and activities. The pressure on Pakistan must be maintained and strengthened. Pakistani leaders should be reminded that the threat that their country could be designated as a terrorist state is a real one that could be invoked at any time.

India has been the prime victim of terrorism emanating from or supported by Pakistan. Thus, in keeping with the fourth point of the State Department's stated policy, we should strive to work much more closely with India, a democracy, on counter-terrorism efforts.

We can only hope that reason will prevail in Islamabad and that the Pakistani Government will see that the result of its present course will be increased isolation from the world community. If not, then we must be prepared to follow through and declare Pakistan a state that sponsors terrorism, with all of the stigma and isolation that goes with such a declaration.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MCHUGH (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today after 2:00 p.m. on account of official business.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. INSLEE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RUSH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DOOLEY of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of Washington, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JEFFERSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. INSLEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WHITFIELD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at her own request) to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, May 8, 2000, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7456. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Brucellosis in Cattle; State and Area Classifications; Arkansas [Docket No. 97-108-2] received March 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7457. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the Franklin, PA, Non-appropriated Fund Wage Area (RIN: 3206-AJ00) received March 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7458. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the Lebanon, PA, Non-appropriated Fund Wage Area (RIN: 3206-AJ01) received March 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.